

and the points brought out under this heading should be familiar to any physician who assumes to pass judgment upon a subject so important that its decision is vital to the future welfare of any human being.

What the author has written on lacerations of the perineum would be dealt with in detail if space permitted; but the reviewer must take exception to the advice that the urine should be drawn exclusively by catheterization for at least the first week, for we know that infections can be more easily prevented by pitcher douches following urinating than by the many disadvantages of so promiscuous catheterization.

The reviewer was further disappointed by the omission of the continuous silkworm-gut suture as evolved by Dr. Geo. B. Somers of this city, than which there is no better universal operation for the repair of a lacerated perineum. If some high-sounding name from an European center could have devised so simple and practical an operation it would be world-famous.

Likewise, the subject of cystocele is not brought up to date, as the most satisfactory operations for its correction are entirely omitted.

The infections of the genito-urinary tract in women have been entered into with considerable detail and are excellent.

The articles on ovarian embryomata (dermoid cysts and teratoma) are especially to be commended.

But on the whole, the book is a most valuable asset to any medical library—especially to the physician who by force of circumstances is compelled to handle this class of work without the opportunity of giving it special attention. C. J. T.

Treatment of Internal Diseases. For Physicians and Students by Prof. Norbert Ortner of the University of Vienna—Edited with Additions by Nathaniel Bowditch Potter, M. D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at Columbia University (College of Physicians and Surgeons), New York. Translated by Frederic H. Bartlett, M. D. Second Edition in English revised and reset from the Fifth German edition. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London. Price \$5.00.

This book covers in a detailed and exhaustive manner the modernized treatment of internal diseases. To the internist, and general practitioner as well, it must appeal at once as a reference work of inestimable value, due to the clear and systematic manner in which the text is written. Throughout this work great stress is placed on the pathological physiology of the diseases in question so that a clear conception of the therapeutic measures advised by the author are at once grasped by the reader's mind. Unlike most American books on therapeutics, it does not only mention the names of famous cures but describes and discusses their relative values and the results he had obtained with them personally. The elaborate manner in which drugless methods of treatment are described must be very gratifying to the reader who appreciates the importance of dietetic, therapeutic, mechanical and climatic effects on diseases. When the author recommends a particular climate or altitude he does not merely say a warm or a cold climate, a high or a low altitude, but mentions the ideal places which are to be found both in Europe and America, giving the reader a wide choice of health resorts to choose from.

When drugs are recommended their physiological action is discussed in detail and their toxic qualities carefully considered. Examples of prescriptions showing the best drug combinations are plentiful throughout the text. Many of the new drugs approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry are personally recommended by the au-

thor. The treatment of tuberculosis with tuberculin is ably described.

The only regrets the reviewer experiences are that there is no chapter in the book giving the modern treatment of Syphilis and that Radium Therapy was not taken up in the text, as the opinion of such a great clinician as Ortner on these modern methods of treatment would be of the greatest value to the readers of this work.

M. A.

Oral Surgery. A Text-Book on General Surgery and Medicine as Applied to Dentistry. By Stewart Leroy McCurdy, M. D., Professor of Anatomy and Oral Surgery, School of Dentistry, University of Pittsburgh, Pa. Dr. Appleton & Co., New York and London, 1912. \$3.00.

The author in his preface raises the question as to "whether oral surgery belongs to general surgery or to dentistry." Surgery of the mouth, jaws and contiguous parts has come to be known as oral surgery, and forms an important specialty of dentistry. This specialty has really been developed and raised to its present importance by men who were practical dentists, but who had passed through the training of the medical and surgical curriculum.

There can be no question as to whether it belongs to general surgery or dental surgery for it has been developed from dental surgery and occupies an important position in the curriculum of all of our dental colleges; while it is not given place, with but very few exceptions, in the medical curriculum.

The educated dentist is fully qualified to deal with all surgical diseases and injuries of the mouth and jaws, and to much better advantage from every standpoint than is the general surgeon by reason of his more intimate knowledge of the parts involved; the diseases and injuries to which they are subject, and by his higher degree of skill in oral manipulations.

The book in a certain way is a disappointment from the fact that one is led from the title—a pretentious one—to look for a more or less exhaustive treatise upon the subject of which it treats. The work is divided into two parts, General Surgery and Oral Surgery, followed by an Appendix composed of quiz questions upon the text.

Part 1. General Surgery, contains 97 pages, which is altogether too limited a space to give to so great and important a subject as the Principles of Surgery. We would suggest that in a second edition this subject be considerably elaborated for the benefit of dental students if the book is to be adopted by our dental colleges.

Part 2. Oral Surgery, is much more elaborately worked out (335 pages) but could with advantage be considerably elaborated. Brevity is sometimes the soul of wit, but this in other respects much to be desired feature can be carried too far in preparing a text-book. We believe the book would be greatly improved if the above suggestions could be carried out.

The Appendix (24 pages) is devoted to a series of quiz questions, the value of which is doubtful.

The author has written from the standpoint of the general surgeon and not from the vantage ground of the dentist, consequently he occasionally falls into error. Not many dentists will for instance agree with the following: "During extraction of teeth many accidents occur requiring the services of a surgeon. Fractures of the mandible or a considerable portion of the maxilla may occur requiring replacement or wiring. Slipping forceps or excavators may perforate important structures and injure an artery or nerve, resulting in dangerous complications," etc. The extraction of teeth by the average dentist is very rarely, practically never, attended by such accidents, and if such should occur the services of a surgeon would not be required by any dentist worthy of the name. It is only in the hands of quacks and incompetents